

United States Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service



Texas Crop Progress and Condition

Southern Plains Regional Field Office

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Issue: TX-CW115 Weekly Summary for March 23- March 29 Released: March 30, 2015

Warm, humid weather was reported throughout the state with minimal rainfall reported in most areas. Little to no rainfall was received in parts of the High and Low Plains and the Trans-Pecos. Other areas received from a quarter inch up to two inches of precipitation.

Small Grains: Warm weather aided development of wheat in the Southern Low Plains. Fertilization of wheat fields was active in the Blacklands. Wheat continued the heading stage in the Coastal Bend. Oats were reported in good condition in South Texas.

Crop Progress Percent of Acreage Stage Current Prev. Week Prev. Year 5 Year Avg Corn Planted 20 27 43 Emerged N/A 17 Cotton N/A N/A 6 7 Planted Rice Planted N/A N/A 9 25 Sorghum Planted 11 7 20 34 Winter Wheat Headed 2 N/A 6 7 **Oats** Headed 5 6 17

Row Crops: Southern Low Plains cotton producers began spraying fields for pests and weeds. Preparations for cotton planting were underway in many areas of the Edwards Plateau. Corn planting was delayed due to wet conditions in South East Texas, while in South Texas, early planted corn had emerged. Sorghum planting continued in South Texas and South Central Texas.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crops: Fruit trees had flowered in many areas of the Lower Valley and North East Texas. In South East Texas, vegetable planting was active, while in South Texas planting was delayed due to precipitation. Pecans in South Central Texas and the Edwards plateau began the bud break stage of development. Onion harvest started in the Lower Valley.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: Supplemental feeding of livestock continued in the Northern High Plains. Livestock conditions were rated fair to good. Spring and summer pasture grasses began greening up from recent rainfall in many areas of the state.

Crop Condition

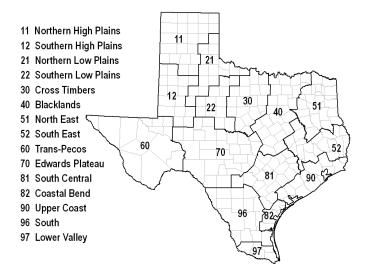
| Crop | | F | Index ¹ | | | | |
|-------------------|-----------|------|--------------------|------|-----------|------|------|
| | Excellent | Good | Fair | Poor | Very Poor | 2015 | 2014 |
| Wheat | 12 | 43 | 36 | 7 | 2 | 75 | 39 |
| Oats | 11 | 46 | 32 | 8 | 3 | 75 | 58 |
| Range and Pasture | 11 | 36 | 36 | 12 | 5 | | |

¹ The formula for the condition index is I = (5V + 25P + 60F + 90G + 110E)/100 where I = crop condition index and V, P, F, G, E = percentage of crop rated very poor, poor, fair, good, excellent.

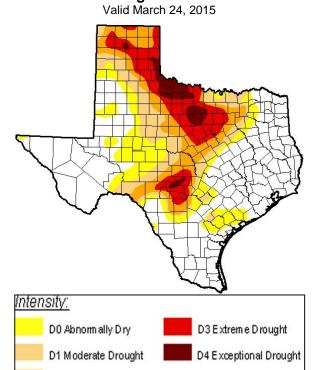
Top Soil Moisture Condition by District

| | Topsoil Moisture Condition by District | | | | Subsoil Moisture Condition by District | | | | Days Suitable for |
|----------|--|-------|----------|---------|--|-------|----------|---------|-------------------|
| District | Percentage of Acreage | | | | Percentage of Acreage | | | | |
| | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus | Fieldwork |
| 11 | 17 | 38 | 45 | 0 | 18 | 48 | 34 | 0 | 6.2 |
| 12 | 12 | 35 | 52 | 1 | 7 | 49 | 43 | 1 | 5.8 |
| 21 | 6 | 52 | 40 | 2 | 7 | 44 | 49 | 0 | 6.1 |
| 22 | 3 | 34 | 58 | 5 | 4 | 21 | 70 | 5 | 5.0 |
| 30 | 4 | 16 | 76 | 4 | 13 | 26 | 60 | 1 | 4.7 |
| 40 | 0 | 5 | 52 | 43 | 1 | 5 | 65 | 29 | 2.2 |
| 51 | 5 | 5 | 37 | 53 | 6 | 4 | 43 | 47 | 4.1 |
| 52 | 3 | 7 | 37 | 53 | 2 | 8 | 40 | 50 | 3.4 |
| 60 | 19 | 25 | 44 | 12 | 20 | 19 | 49 | 12 | 7.0 |
| 70 | 13 | 18 | 61 | 8 | 13 | 22 | 57 | 8 | 6.1 |
| 81 | 1 | 9 | 74 | 16 | 1 | 12 | 80 | 7 | 5.2 |
| 82 | 0 | 1 | 6 | 93 | 1 | 3 | 7 | 89 | 1.0 |
| 90 | 0 | 1 | 27 | 72 | 0 | 1 | 60 | 39 | 1.5 |
| 96 | 1 | 20 | 48 | 31 | 3 | 24 | 70 | 3 | 4.8 |
| 97 | 0 | 8 | 36 | 56 | 3 | 11 | 50 | 36 | 6.0 |
| State | 7 | 23 | 51 | 19 | 7 | 27 | 53 | 13 | 4.9 |

Texas Agricultural Districts



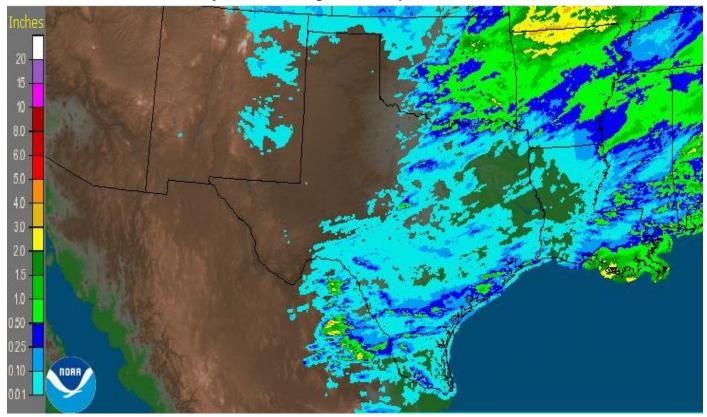
Drought Monitor



Source: National Drought Mitigation Center, a partnership with USDA, U.S. Department of Commerce/NOAA, http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/

D2 Severe Drought

Seven Day Observed Regional Precipitation, March 29, 2015



Source: National Weather Service, www.nws.noaa.gov